

# Annual Report

ON THE

Sanitary Condition  
of - the - Northern  
Combined District

OF

WEST SUSSEX.

BY THE

Medical Officers of Health,

FOR THE YEAR 1917.



MIDHURST:

G. ROYNON, Printer, Stationer, etc.

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1917.

# I N D E X .

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Horsham Urban District.

1917.

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*Report of the Medical Officer of Health  
for the Year 1917*

... BY ...

C. RAWDON WOOD.

M.A., M.D., D.P.H.



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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE  
HORSHAM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting, on behalf of Dr. Stanley Child and myself, the Annual Report on the Health of the District for the year 1917. Early in January, 1917, special instructions were issued by the President of the Local Government Board directing that annual reports, in the interests of economy and in view of the large amount of work now devolving upon Medical Officers of Health, should be confined to essential particulars, and that the usual statistical tables should not be included, with the possible exception of the table of Infant Mortality, and that where possible the report should be typewritten: also that with a view to the continuity of the sanitary records of the district all records should be carefully preserved with a view to more complete publication in later times. These instructions have been carefully followed.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population as estimated by the Registrar-General—

A. Civil population only (for death rate) .....	10,087
B. Civil and Military population (for birth rate).....	11,244
Number of Births .....	184
Rate per 1,000 living .....	16·3
Number of deaths (civilians only) .....	155
Rate per 1,000 living .....	15·3
Excess of births over deaths .....	29
Infant Mortality under 1 year per 1,000 births .....	59·7

POPULATION.

As only deaths of civilians are now included in the death returns, the death rate must obviously be based on the civilian population only, which is estimated to number 10,087. If the proportion of men serving in His Majesty's Forces is the same in the district as in others in England and Wales, then the total civil and military population is calculated to be 11,244, and this is the figure used for the calculation of the birth rate. There is reason to believe, however, that the proportion of the population now with the Colours is rather larger in this area than in many other parts of the country.

BIRTHS.

The total number of Births registered in the district was 185, and the nett number belonging to the district was 184. The proportion of births among the sexes was 101 boys and 83 girls. The number of illegitimate births was 12.



## DEATHS.

The total number of Deaths registered was 161. The nett number of actual residents dying within and without the area was (civilians only) 155.

## INFANT MORTALITY.

Eleven infants under one year of age died during the year in the town. As 184 were born, the ratio of deaths to births was 59 per 1,000. This is rather a high figure for an area like the town of Horsham, though an examination of the table of the causes of the deaths appended does not reveal any cause for the excessive mortality. There were no deaths from infectious disease and only one from Diarrhœa. Arrangements have now been made and have been in operation throughout the year for the greater protection and care of Infant Life, and it is hoped that in due course a considerable reduction will be seen in the rate of Infant Mortality together with an even greater improvement in the general standard of health and strength in the oncoming generations. The Child Welfare Centre now in operation every week at Tan Cottage, Brighton Road, should have an important influence in educating the mothers of the area in the best methods of bringing up Infants and in the care of Children. There is an enormous amount of bad tradition and ignorant practice in the feeding, clothing, and general management of infants and children which needs to be combated, and there is no method better adapted for the spreading of modern knowledge and improved methods than a carefully and scientifically conducted Welfare Centre, where it is adequately realised that the main idea is the right rearing of the healthy child and not the medical treatment of the sick and ailing, important though the latter may be.

The success of the Welfare Centre depends also to a considerable extent upon the good management, tact, and discretion of the Health Visitor, who is now doing excellent work in the town. The Health Visitor receives from the Medical Officer of Health intimation of every birth, and visits in all necessary cases, giving advice and assistance in the early days of Motherhood, which in most cases it is hoped will later on be added to and improved by instruction by precept and example at the Child Welfare Centre. There is no more worthy work being done for the nation than this work for the care and comfort of the child and the mother than is now being carried on throughout the County, and the area of Horsham is especially to be congratulated upon the efficiency of the organisation now at work in the town.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

With the exception of Measles and German Measles, the incidence of infectious disease was very small.

## Cases of infectious disease notified in 1917:—

			Removed to Hospital
Measles and German Measles	} Notified by Medical Practitioners 186 " " other Persons ... 266	} 452	1
Diphtheria .....		7	1
Scarlet Fever .....		5	4
Erysipelas .....		3	0
Pulmonary Tuberculosis .....		19	3
Other forms of Tuberculosis .....		3	0
		Total ...	489

## INSPECTION OF HOUSES REGULATIONS, 1910.

Number of Houses inspected under Section 17.....	163
Number of Houses which on inspection were considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation .....	6
Number of Representations made to the Local Authority with a view to the making of closing orders .....	0
Number of Closing Orders made .....	0
Number of dwelling houses in which the defects were remedied without the making of closing orders .....	11
Number of houses in which after the making of closing orders were made fit for human habitation .....	0
Number of houses closed as a result of informal representations being made .....	3

## General character of Defects found:—

Defective walls .....	10
„ floors .....	8
„ ceilings .....	11
„ roofs .....	3
„ eaves, gutters and downspouts .....	12
„ windows .....	3
„ staircases .....	1
„ and absent sinks .....	1
„ sink discharge pipes .....	1
„ yard paving .....	3
„ drains .....	18
„ ventilation and light .....	3
„ privies .....	4
„ water closets .....	4

No proper ash pits .....	25
Dampness .....	12
Uncleanliness .....	14
Inadequate water supply .....	1
Water closets requiring flushing apparatus .....	8
Number of informal notices served .....	83
Number of informal notices complied with .....	80
Number of statutory notices served .....	1
"    "    "    "    complied with .....	1

## SYSTEMATIC INSPECTION.

Summary of work done by Mr. C. F. Payne, A.R.S.I.,  
Inspector of Nuisances:—

Complaints from the Public investigated .....	55
Complaints of overcrowding received .....	0
Re-inspections of work in progress .....	650
Visits paid to Regulated Trade premises .....	507
Premises visited in connection with notifiable disease .....	54
Premises disinfected after notifiable disease .....	27
House drains tested by water test .....	22
House drains tested by smoke test .....	27
House drains re-laid or repaired .....	20

Nuisances discovered:—

Overcrowding .....	0
Animals improperly kept .....	1
House drains found stopped .....	62
Defective and insanitary urinals .....	2
Offensive accumulations .....	4
Smoke nuisances .....	0
Sundry other nuisances .....	25
Informal notices served .....	21
Statutory notices served .....	0

## DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

There are 25 on the register, of which 10 are cowkeepers.

Cleansing notices are sent out half-yearly requiring the occupiers to cleanse and limewash their premises in accordance with the Regulations in force.



## SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

There are 12 slaughter-houses in the district, 7 are registered and the remaining 5 are licensed premises. Frequent visits are paid to slaughter-houses when slaughtering is in progress, and so far as circumstances permit the meat killed, with the offal, is inspected before it leaves the slaughter-house.

As in the past year, due to conditions brought about by the War, a large amount of inferior cattle has found its way into one of the Slaughter-houses. This class of trade obviously requires a great deal of vigilance, and much time has been spent paying visits at all hours in order to ensure that meat and offal of a doubtful character may not escape inspection.

As a result, 4,044 lbs. of meat and offal have been condemned and destroyed as unfit for human food, details of which are given hereunder. Cleansing notices are sent out four times a year requiring the occupiers to limewash their premises.

## FOOD INSPECTION.

Statement as to Meat, etc., destroyed as unfit for human food:—

Description.	Weight in lbs.						Remarks.
Beef ... ..	2,765	...	...	...	...	...	Comprised seven carcasses.
Mutton ... ..	28	...	...	...	...	...	One carcass.
Pork ... ..	304	...	...	...	...	...	Two carcasses.
Veal ... ..	192	...	...	...	...	...	Three carcasses.
Offal ... ..	755						
Total in lbs.		4,044					

## COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are two lodging houses on the Register. In the case of one house there has been a change of occupier, the new tenant being duly registered by the Council.

## OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Under this head marine stores are the only trade that come under our supervision. There are two recognised premises and they have been well kept and conducted.

## FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

At four premises, owing to female labour being employed on munitions, or otherwise replacing men, separate closet accommodation has been provided to meet the needs of the respective premises.

Owing to shortage of labour in the baking trade some latitude had to be shown with regard to whitewashing of the bakehouses so far as was necessary to suit the convenience of the occupiers.

#### FOOD CONTROLLER'S ORDERS.

In the month of May the duties of enforcing the Food Controller's Orders were imposed on Local Authorities and their officers. These duties were discharged during the year and terminated on Dec. 31, when they were transferred under a new Order to the Local Food Control Committee.

Several instances of infringements of the several Orders were brought to the notice of the Local Authority and appropriate action was taken in each case.

#### LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

No legal proceedings were taken during the year.

Despite the difficulties under which sanitary work is now accomplished the record of the past year appears satisfactory. In conclusion, I have to thank the members of the Council and Officials for unvarying kindness and assistance at all times.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

C. RAWDON WOOD, M.A., M.D., D.P.H.

Hove, April, 1918.

TABLE IV.—HORSHAM URBAN DISTRICT.

## INFANT MORTALITY, 1917.

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various ages under 1 Year of Age.

Causes of Death	Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 4 weeks.	4 weeks and under 3 months.	3 months and under 6 months.	6 months and under 9 months.	9 months and under 12 months.	Total Deaths under 1 year.
ALL CAUSES—										
Certified ...	3	—	—	1	4	3	1	2	1	11
Uncertified ...										
Small-pox ...										
Chicken-pox ...										
Measles ...										
Scarlet fever ...										
Whooping-cough...										
Diphtheria and Croup ...										
Erysipelas...										
Tuberculosis ...										
Meningitis ...										
Abdominal Tuberculosis ...										
Other Tuberculous Diseases ...										
Meningitis ( <i>not Tuberculous</i> ) ...										
Convulsions ...										
Laryngitis...										
Bronchitis...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	3
Pneumonia (all forms) ...										
Diarrhoea ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Enteritis ...										
Gastritis ...										
Syphilis ...										
Rickets ...										
Suffocation, overlying ...										
Injury at Birth ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Atelectasis ...										
Congenital Malformations ...	1	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	2
Premature Birth ...	1	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	3
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus ...										
Other Causes ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Totals ...	3	—	—	1	4	3	1	2	1	11

Nett Births in the year { legitimate 172  
 { illegitimate 12

Nett Deaths in the year { legitimate infants 6  
 { illegitimate infants 5





Horsham Rural District.

1917.

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*Report of the Medical Officer of Health  
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M.A., M.D., D.P.H.



# TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HORSHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting, on behalf of Dr. Stanley Child and myself, the Annual Report on the Health of the District for the year 1917. Early in January, 1917, special instructions were issued by the President of the Local Government Board directing that annual reports, in the interests of economy and in view of the large amount of work now devolving upon Medical Officers of Health, should be confined to essential particulars, and that the usual statistical tables should not be included, with the possible exception of the table of Infant Mortality, and that where possible the report should be typewritten: also that with a view to the continuity of the sanitary records of the district all records should be carefully preserved with a view to more complete publication in later times. In the report as submitted these directions have been followed.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

Civil population .....	17,991
Civil and Military population .....	20,055
Number of Births .....	203
Rate per 1,000 living .....	10·1
Number of Deaths (Civilians only) .....	239
Rate per 1,000 .....	13·2
Excess of Deaths over Births .....	36
Infant Mortality Rate .....	49·2

## POPULATION.

The civil population for the year 1917 is estimated by the Registrar-General as 17,991. As only deaths of civilians are entered on the Register this is the population used for the estimation of the death rate. Since, however, many children born in the area are the children of fathers serving with His Majesty's Forces, the birth rate must of necessity be calculated on a population consisting of the whole population, both civil and military, and this population is calculated on the assumption that the proportion of the population now with the Colours is the same as the proportion in England and Wales as a whole. On this assumption the total population is given by the Registrar-General as 20,055.

## BIRTHS.

The total number of births for the district was 203. Of these 103 were boys and 100 girls. The number of illegitimate births was 24. The rate per 1,000 of the estimated population was 10·1, the lowest recorded rate in the district.

## DEATHS.

The deaths of civilians belonging to the district numbered 239, viz:—126 males and 113 females. The death rate per 1,000 for the year was 13·2. The principal causes of death were organic heart disease 18, cancer 12, pulmonary tuberculosis 7, influenza 8.

## INFANT MORTALITY.

The number of deaths of infants under one year of age was 10. As the births numbered 203, the rate of infantile mortality per 1,000 births was 49·2, one comparing very favourably with that of England and Wales for the year, which amounted to 97 per 1,000 births.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The number of cases of infectious disease is greatly swollen this year by the addition of Measles and German measles, which appear for the second time in the records as notifiable diseases.

			Removed to Hospital
Measles and German Measles	} Notified by Medical Practitioners 226 } ,, ,, other Persons ... 42 }	268	1
Diphtheria	.....	3	1
Scarlet Fever	.....	9	6
Erysipelas	.....	2	0
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	.....	15	2
Tuberculosis, other forms	.....	6	0
Total .....			303

## IMPROVEMENTS TO SEWAGE DISPOSAL WORKS.

CRAWLEY AND IFIELD DISPOSAL WORKS.—The work of renewing the filtering material in one of the four 68 feet diameter beds at these works, was completed early in the year.

The total cost of the work being £203.

PARTRIDGE GREEN DISPOSAL WORKS.—The two coarse filters at these works having become badly clogged, caused an unsatisfactory effluent into the stream near to. To remedy this the filtering material in the two beds was renewed and their walls were repaired.

The cost of the work amounted to £38.

WARNHAM—ANDREWS FARM DISPOSAL WORKS.—In consequence of the serious pollution of the stream near to these works, due to the obsolete and insufficient means of disposal there



for the sewage from the greater portion of the village; the Rural District Council decided to construct new disposal works there at a higher level than the existing ones.

These new works, consisting of Detritus, Sludge, and Septic Tanks in duplicate, a percolating Filter with Stoddart Distributor, and 223 yards of new sewer necessary to raise the outfall to the higher level of the new works; constructed in accordance with plans and specifications designed by the Council's Sanitary Surveyor and Inspector (Mr. F. Boylin) were nearing completion at the end of the year.

## HOUSING (INSPECTION OF DISTRICT) REGULATIONS, 1910.

The number of houses inspected under and for the purposes of Section 17 of the Act of 1909 .....	57
The number considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation .....	8
The number of representations made to the Local Authority with a view to the making of closing orders ...	7
The number of houses the defects in which were remedied without the making of closing orders .....	17
The number of closing orders made .....	7
The number of dwelling houses which after the making of closing orders were put into a fit state for human habitation—Work in progress on .....	4
The number of demolition orders made .....	0
The number of houses demolished .....	0

The general character of the defects found to exist:—

Defective or insufficient drainage .....	25
„    „    „    privies .....	14
„    „    „    water closets .....	2
„    „    „    sinks .....	18
„    „    „    yard paving .....	16
„    „    „    eaves, gutters, or rain water pipes .....	14
„    „    „    ventilation .....	6
„    „    „    lighting .....	2
„    „    „    cesspools .....	3
Want of covers to water storage cisterns .....	3
„    refuse receptacles .....	8
Defective roofs .....	6
„    floors .....	12
„    walls .....	6
„    plastering .....	4
„    ceilings .....	3

Defective windows .....	2
„ chimneys .....	2
„ curbs or covers to wells .....	3
„ pumps .....	1
Dirty walls and ceilings .....	10
Overcrowding .....	1
Polluted wells .....	3

## Repairs and Improvements completed:—

No. of drains relaid or repaired .....	10
„ „ drain ventilation pipes repaired .....	0
„ „ additional new drains provided .....	17
„ „ defective privies repaired .....	4
„ „ „ „ converted to pail closets .....	3
„ „ „ water closets repaired .....	2
„ „ insanitary ashpits abolished .....	2
„ „ galvanised iron ashbins provided .....	2
„ „ new cesspools provided .....	2
„ „ new wells sunk .....	0
„ „ wells cleansed .....	3
„ „ defective well covers or curbs repaired or renewed	1
„ „ covers provided to water storage cisterns .....	0
„ „ defective pump repaired .....	1
„ „ „ yard pavings repaired or additional pav- ing provided .....	7
„ „ „ chimneys repaired .....	3
„ „ „ roofs repaired .....	4
„ „ „ walls treated to remedy dampness .....	7
„ „ „ or damp floors remedied .....	17
„ „ „ plastered walls repaired .....	3
„ „ „ „ ceilings repaired .....	3
„ „ „ rain water pipes or eaves gutters provided	2
„ „ additional rain water pipes or eaves gutters provided	13
„ „ „ windows provided .....	2
„ „ windows repaired or made to open .....	4
„ „ insanitary sinks abolished .....	10
„ „ sanitary sinks provided .....	13
„ „ fireplaces repaired .....	2
„ „ dirty rooms cleansed .....	34
„ „ rooms provided with additional ventilation .....	4
„ „ cases of overcrowding abated .....	1
„ „ rooms stripped of paper and cleansed after in- fectious disease .....	11

„ „	accumulations of manure or offensive refuse removed .....	5
„ „	nuisances from improper keeping of animals or poultry abated .....	0
„ „	drains cleared .....	2
„ „	„ repaired .....	10
„ „	new drains provided .....	17
„ „	surface water drains disconnected from sewers ...	0
„ „	foul drains discharging into streams altered .....	2
„ „	defective manholes repaired .....	3
„ „	„ cesspools repaired .....	3
„ „	„ yard pavings repaired .....	7

### SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS, ETC.

Work done by Mr. F. Boylin, Inspector of Nuisances:—

No. of visits for inquiries into infectious disease cases	30
„ „ rooms fumigated after infectious disease cases ...	44
„ „ infectious disease cases accompanied to Hospital ...	5
„ „ inspections of new buildings .....	13
„ „ new drains tested—main 13, branch 26 .....	39
„ „ houses inspected in detail for Housing Act .....	57
„ „ general inspection of premises and re-inspections...	197
„ „ inspections of repairs or improvements in progress	102
„ „ interviews on premises with owners or agents re:—	
repairs .....	32
„ „ old drains tested .....	15
„ „ inspections of meat and fish shops and slaughter-houses .....	126
„ „ inspection of bakehouses .....	40
„ „ „ „ cowsheds and dairies .....	102
„ „ „ „ knackers' yards .....	13
„ „ „ „ sewage farms .....	148
„ „ „ „ carbide and petrol stores .....	12
„ „ miscellaneous visits not included above .....	216
„ „ samples of water taken for analysis .....	5
„ „ Council or Committee Meetings attended .....	20
„ „ written complaints received and dealt with .....	13
„ „ informal notices served .....	63
„ „ „ „ complied with .....	39
„ „ „ „ partly complied with .....	7
„ „ „ „ outstanding .....	17
Visits re:—Enforcement of Food Control Orders .....	56



## NEW BUILDINGS.

During the year 5 plans were approved by the Council. Of these one was for a proposed new cottage at Shipley; two were for additions to existing houses; one for a small new engine house; and one for the drainage of 4 cottages.

All the proposed new work has been completed with the exception of the new cottage which has not yet been commenced.

## SLAUGHTER-HOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION.

Of the 19 slaughter-houses in the District, 16 were in use during the year. These were visited as often as possible on days when slaughtering was done. They were generally found to be kept in clean condition.

In a few cases it was found necessary to give notices in regard to cleansing or the more frequent removal of refuse.

During the year 617 lbs. of meat which had been prepared for human food was condemned.

Of this amount 70 lbs. was affected with localised tuberculosis.

The remainder was unwholesome meat from the carcasses of 7 animals which had been "dressed" after death, or killed when in a moribund condition.

For being in the possession of 6 of these carcasses after having prepared them for sale for human food, a farmer was prosecuted and fined £5 and costs.

## BAKEHOUSES.

Owing to the shortage of labour during the year, the lime-washing of these premises was not done as regularly as usual, but they were found to be kept in clean condition.

## DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

During the year structural improvements were made to two cowsheds.

Nine persons were registered under the Dairies and Cowsheds Order

## INFANTILE MORTALITY.

In appending the table of Infantile Mortality I have to draw attention to the good work done in the district by the



Visiting Nurses. All Births as notified to the Medical Officer of Health are again notified to the Health Nurses, who visit all infants where such visits appear necessary, and are at all times ready to give advice and help in the care and management of infants and little children. The work is done with care and judgment and much good is done thereby.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

C. RAWDON WOOD, M.A., M.D., D.P.H:

TABLE IV.—HORSHAM RURAL DISTRICT.

INFANT MORTALITY, 1917.

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various ages under 1 Year of Age.

Causes of Death.	Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 4 weeks.	4 weeks and under 3 months.	3 months and under 6 months.	6 months and under 9 months.	9 months and under 12 months.	Total Deaths under 1 year.
ALL CAUSES—										
Certified ...	2	—	—	—	2	1	3	2	2	10
Uncertified ...										
Small-pox ...										
Chicken-pox ...										
Measles ...										
Scarlet fever ...										
Whooping-cough...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2
Diphtheria and Croup ...										
Erysipelas...										
Tuberculosis ...										
Meningitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Abdominal Tuberculosis ...										
Other Tuberculous Diseases ...										
Meningitis ( <i>not Tuberculous</i> ) ...										
Convulsions ...										
Laryngitis...										
Bronchitis...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Diarrhœa ...										
Enteritis ...										
Gastritis ...										
Syphilis ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Rickets ...										
Suffocation, over-lying ...										
Injury at Birth ...										
Atelectasis ...										
Congenital Malformations ...										
Premature Birth ...	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Other Causes ...										
Totals ...	2	—	—	—	2	1	3	2	2	10

Nett	{ legitimate	179
Births in the year	{ illegitimate	24

Deaths in the year	Nett	{ legitimate infants	8
		{ illegitimate infants	2

**Midhurst Rural District.**

---

**1917.**

Helmsley,

Manor Road,

Worthing,

May, 1918.

Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting herewith the Medical Officer's Annual Report for the year 1917 for the Midhurst, Petworth and Thakeham Rural Districts respectively, for which I have the honour of acting as Medical Officer of Health during the absence of Dr. Stanley Child on military service.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

WM. JAS. BUTCHER.

To the Members of the

- 1.—Midhurst Rural District Council.
- 2.—Petworth Rural District Council.
- 3.—Thakeham Rural District Council.



## VITAL STATISTICS, 1917, SUMMARY.

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				Midhurst R.D.	Rural Districts in West Sussex.	England & Wales.		
Death Rate	...	...	...	12·5	...	13·8	...	14·4
Birth Rate	...	...	...	14·5	...	13·0	...	17·8
Infantile Mortality Rate	...	...	...	64	...	52	...	97
Phthisis Death Rate	...	...	...	0·9	...	1·1	...	—
Zymotic (Infectious disease)								
Death Rate	...	...	...	0·3	...	0·28	...	—
Population, Census 1911	...	...	...	15,283	...	—	...	—
Estimated Population								
to middle of 1917	Total	13,894	...	—	...	—	...	—
	Civilian	12,464						

# Midhurst Rural District.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

### POPULATION.

At Census, 1911 .....	15,283
Registrar-General's estimated populations to middle of year 1917 .....	Total ... 13,894
	Civilian 12,464

The natural increase of the population, i.e., excess of births over civilian deaths was 45 (202—157).

### BIRTHS.

202 births belonging to the district have been registered during the year, 105 males and 97 females; 22 were illegitimate. For the purpose of calculating the birth rate the Registrar-General directs that the estimated total population (not civilians only) should be used, viz.: 13,894. Thus calculated the birth rate for the past year was 14.5 per 1,000 as compared with 18.4 the average rate for the district during the preceding five years, with 13.0 the rate in 1917 for the Rural Districts of West Sussex, and with 17.8 the rate for England and Wales in 1917.

### DEATHS.

157 deaths belonging to the district have been registered during the year, 79 males, 78 females, equal to a death rate of 12.5 per 1,000, as compared with 11.9 the average for the district during the preceding five years, with 13.8 the rate for Rural Districts in West Sussex in 1917 and with 14.4 the rate for England and Wales in 1917.

The principal causes of death were:

	1917	1916	1915
Pulmonary Tuberculosis .....	12	19	11
Other Tuberculous Diseases .....	5	0	4
Bronchitis .....	9	12	20
Pneumonia .....	7	11	14
Cancer .....	12	17	11
Heart Disease .....	28	15	14
Whooping Cough .....	0	3	2
Influenza .....	8	5	11

	1917	1916	1915
Diarrhœa .....	2	1	2
Violence apart from suicide .....	5	7	9
Measles .....	0	0	2
Enteric Fever .....	1	0	0
Diphtheria .....	1	0	0

### INFANTILE MORTALITY.

Under the Notification of Births Act 162 births were notified to me, 129 by Doctors, 30 by Midwives, and 3 by Parents. Failure to notify under the Act came to my knowledge in 38 cases.

During the year 13 children died under one year of age, as compared with 24 in 1916 and 29 in 1915. The infantile mortality rate was 64, as compared with 72, the average rate for the district during the preceding five years, with 52 the rate in 1917 for the Rural Districts of West Sussex, and with 97 the rate for England and Wales in 1917.

The infantile mortality rate is lower than last year, but the following details of the deaths under one year are instructive:—

	Cause of Death.	Age.	Observations.
1.	Premature Birth ...	4 days...	} Probable that confinement brought on a month too soon as a result of excessive exertion a few days before.
2.	„ „ ...	5 days...	
3.	„ „ ...	20 minutes	Mother recently in an air raid
4.	„ „ ...	1 day.	
5.	„ „ ...	3 days.	
6.	„ „ ...	3 hours...	Mother worked 14 hours a day 7 days a week up to 12-days before confinement.
7.	„ „ ...	1 day	
8.	Meningocele ...	3 days	
9.	Drowned ...	Few minutes	Child born without anyone at all in attendance on mother
10.	Asphyxia ...	1 month ...	Suffocated, sleeping in same bed as mother
11.	Marasmus (Wasting)	3 months	
12.	Gastro-Enteritis ...	9 months	
13.	Convulsions ...	17 days	

From the above it will be seen:

- (a) that 7 out of the 13 died as a result of premature birth, indicating some adverse conditions during pregnancy—in the case of three, excessive work or exertion.
- (b) that two of them on the list were due to avoidable accident.
- (c) that two, Nos. 11 and 12 were probably brought about by some error in diet.

In addition to these thirteen deaths under one year two babies died who were just a few days over one year. In regard to one of these the Health Visitor reported that "she never found the child clean or warm, and that it was irregularly fed," and in regard to the other that it was fed with starchy foods from early in life, and at nine months with vegetables, etc., and that nothing she said at her visits could induce the mother to alter this improper feeding.

This brief examination into the loss of infant life in this district during the past year goes to show how preventable is a large proportion of the present wastage of infant life, if only ordinary prudence and care were exercised by mothers both before and after the birth of their babies. Health Visitors are doing excellent work, but they have much ignorance and prejudice to overcome.

### PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During the past year the following notifications of infectious disease have been received as occurring among the civilian population:—

	1917	Incidence per 1,000	1916	1915
Enteric Fever .....	0	0.0	0	5
Diphtheria .....	14	1.1	2	15
Scarlet Fever .....	3	0.2	12	25
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis .....	1	0.08	1	0
Erysipelas .....	0	0.0	1	5
Ophtalmia Neonatorum .....	2	0.1	4	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis .....	21	1.6	22	23
Other forms of Tuberculosis .....	1	0.08	6	0
	<hr/> 42		<hr/> 48	<hr/> 74
Measles .....	9	0.7	25 *	
German Measles .....	31	2.4	30 *	
	<hr/> 82		<hr/> 103	

\*Only notifiable since 1st January, 1916.



Diphtheria broke out in several parishes during the year. The first case occurred at Midhurst in February, the patient being a girl who arrived from Bournemouth in February with a sore throat: several people had been ill with sore throat where she had been staying. In March two members of one family at Lodsworth developed the disease, and a friend who had helped to nurse them contracted it and was notified in April. In May two servants at the Sanatorium were notified and later in the same month a child at Stedham. No case occurred from May until September, when two members of one family were notified from Stedham. In November a case occurred at Heyshott, and early in December one at South Ambersham—the wife of a soldier recently home on leave—who infected her child. Two other cases occurred at Heyshott, both children attending Heyshott School. One death occurred from Diphtheria.

The case of Cerebro-Spinal Fever occurred in the parish of Harting and was rapidly fatal.

The three cases of Scarlet Fever occurred at Graffham, Iping and Heyshott respectively. No death occurred.

Although no case of Enteric Fever was notified, a resident of the district died from this disease at the County Hospital, Guildford, and the death is included in the death returns.

No case of infectious disease was removed to hospital during the year.

#### MEASLES AND GERMAN MEASLES.

Only sporadic cases of Measles occurred during the year. Most of the cases of German Measles occurred in the parishes of Fernhurst, Lynchmere, Harting and Midhurst.

No arrangement has been in force during the year for the visiting of Measles by a nurse, but the Council have now resolved to make such arrangements with the County Nursing Association.

#### HOUSING REQUIREMENTS.

In reply to the Local Government Board's request in September for a return showing the needs of the district in respect to houses for the working classes, the Council informed the Board that 82 houses were required in the parishes named below at the end of the war, and that they would be willing to prepare schemes for 54 houses provided that the proposed financial assistance from imperial sources would enable them to be let at a rental which the working classes could pay.

Cocking	.....	4	
Easebourne, Midhurst	... —		(Private enterprise will probably provide 24)
Fernhurst	.....	6	

Graffham .....	—	(Private enterprise will probably provide any that may be required).
Harting .....	4	
Heyshott .....	4	
Iping .....	2	
Linchmere .....	10	
Lodsworth .....	2	
Lurgashall .....	6	
Rogate .....	4	
Selham and South Ambersham .....	4	
Stedham .....	4	
Tillington .....	4	
Chithurst .....	—	(Scheme already approved by the Local Government Board for four erections, deferred until end of war).

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## GENERAL SANITARY INSPECTION.

### HOUSING (INSPECTION OF DISTRICT) REGULATIONS.

Number of dwelling houses inspected under and for the purpose of Section 17 of the Act, 1909 .....	54
Number of houses which on inspection were considered to be so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for habitation .....	0
Number of representations made to the Local Authority with a view to the making of closing orders .....	0
Number of houses the defects of which were remedied without the making of closing orders .....	15
Number of houses which, after the making of closing orders were put in a fit state for human habitation	0

It is very difficult to get any repairs carried out or improvements made owing to the shortage of labour and the difficulty of obtaining materials.

### MILK SUPPLY.

There are now 114 dairy farms on the Council's Register, six occupiers having been registered during the year

The sheds have been inspected periodically, and improvements have been asked for in six cases. At one farm a practically new shed was provided for 25 cows at the request of

the Inspector, owing to the narrow space behind the cows. At another a new cooling house with a fresh water supply has been provided. At the four other farms the works required were in respect to paving and drainage, and were in progress at the end of the year.

### FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT.

130 visits of inspection were paid to Workshops and 16 to Factories.

One defect was found, namely, insufficient sanitary accommodation and this has been remedied.

One list, containing the name of one outworker has been received.

The number of workshops on the Register is 128.

### SYSTEMATIC INSPECTION.

The following is a summary of the routine work carried out by the Council's Inspector of Nuisances and Inspector under the Housing Town Planning Act, 1909, Mr. S. E. Stratford.

Premises visited and inspections made .....	987
Nuisances reported .....	47
Nuisances abated by notice .....	0
Nuisances abated by letter or verbal notice .....	35
Houses disinfected .....	49
Schools disinfected .....	0
Cases of overcrowding .....	1
Cases abated by notice .....	1
House drains found defective .....	11
House drains relaid .....	5
Privies converted to Earth Closets .....	12
New Earth Closets provided .....	8
Water supplies improved .....	8
New Water Supplies provided .....	4

One certificate was granted under the Public Health (Water) Act, 1878, in respect of two newly erected cottages situated in the Parish of Trotton.

### PUBLIC SCAVENGING.

Linchmere and the Northern part of the Parish of Fernhurst.—The system adopted here of emptying E.C. pails is still carried out, but the work is exceedingly difficult to cope with both with regard to pails and cesspools, owing to the largely increased population, attributable to the proximity of Bramshott Camp.

Harting.—The public scavenging of Earth Closet pails and cesspools is in operation in this parish.







**Petworth Rural District.**

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**1917.**

## VITAL STATISTICS, 1917, SUMMARY.

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				Petworth R.D.	Rural Districts in West Sussex.	England & Wales.
Death Rate	...	...	...	15·4	13·8	14·4
Birth Rate	...	...	...	13·6	13·0	17·8
Infantile Mortality Rate	...	...	...	67	52	97
Phthisis Death Rate	...	...	...	1·2	1·1	—
Zymotic (Infectious Disease)						
Death Rate	...	...	...	0·1	0·28	—
Population, Census 1911	...	...	...	8,776	—	—
Estimated populations to middle of 1917						
Civilian	...	...	...	6,980	—	—
Total	...	...	...	7,781	—	—

# Petworth Rural District.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

### POPULATION.

At Census, 1911 .....	8,776
Registrar-General's estimated populations to middle of year 1917 .....	Total ... 7,781
	Civilian... 6,980

The number of births was two less than the number of civilian deaths, viz: 106 births and 108 deaths, so that the natural increase in the population was a minus quantity.

### BIRTHS.

106 births belonging to the district have been registered during the year, 58 males, 48 females; 6 were illegitimate. For the purpose of calculating the birth rate the Registrar-General directs that the estimated total population (not civilians only) should be used, viz : 7,781. Thus calculated the birth rate for the past year was 13.6 per 1,000, as compared with 19.2 the average rate for the district during the preceding five years, with 13.0 the rate for Rural Districts in West Sussex in 1917, and with 17.8 the rate for England and Wales in 1917.

### DEATHS.

108 deaths belonging to the district have been registered during the year, 60 males, 48 females, equal to a death rate of 15.4 per 1,000 as compared with 13.1 the average rate for the district during the preceding five years, with 13.8 the rate for the Rural Districts in West Sussex in 1917, and with 14.4 the rate for England and Wales in 1917.

The principal causes of death were:—

	1917	1916	1915
Pulmonary Tuberculosis .....	9	7	6
Tuberculous Meningitis and other Tuberculous Diseases .....	1	1	1
Bronchitis .....	3	8	17
Pneumonia .....	5	3	12
Other Respiratory Diseases .....	0	3	6

	1917	1916	1915
Heart Disease .....	21	9	21
Cancer .....	11	10	11
Whooping Cough .....	1	2	2
Diphtheria .....	0	2	2
Enteric Fever .....	0	0	1
Measles .....	0	0	1

### INFANTILE MORTALITY.

Under the Notification of Births Act, 90 births were notified to me, 66 by Doctors, 15 by Midwives, and 9 by Parents. Failure to notify under the Act came to my knowledge in 14 cases.

The County Council Health Visitors have visited all houses from which notifications have been received.

During the year 6 children died under one year of age, as compared with 4 in 1916, and 13 in 1915. The infantile mortality rate was 56 per 1,000 births, as compared with 67, the average rate for the district during the preceding five years, with 52 the rate in 1917 for the Rural Districts of West Sussex, and with 97 the rate for England and Wales in 1917.

The six deaths under one year were due to the following causes: two to premature birth, aged 11½ and 24 hours respectively, one to Pulmonary Atelectasis (i.e., congenital inability to expand the lungs) aged 30 minutes; two from congenital heart disease, aged 4 days; one from hæmorrhage due to want of attention at birth.

These deaths occurred in the following parishes:—2 in Wisborough Green, 2 in Northchapel, 1 in Kirdford and 1 in Petworth.

### PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

During the past year the following notifications of infectious disease have been received in respect to the civilian population:—

	1917	Incidence per 1,000	1916	1915
Diphtheria .....	0	0.0	6	18
Enteric Fever .....	0	0.0	1	0
Scarlet Fever .....	1	0.1	8	17
Erysipelas .....	0	0.0	2	4
Cerebro-Spinal Fever .....	0	0.0	1	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .....	0	0.0	0	0



Pulmonary Tuberculosis .....	11	1.5	14	17
Other forms Tuberculosis .....	5	0.7	1	6
	—		—	—
	17		33	62
Measles .....	12	1.7	11*	
German Measles .....	19	2.7	5*	
	—		—	
	48		49	

\*Only notifiable since 1st January, 1916.

It will be seen from the above figures how remarkably free the district has been from infectious diseases other than Measles and German Measles, no case of Enteric Fever, Diphtheria or Cerebro-Spinal Fever being notified, and only one case of Scarlet Fever.

The outbreaks of Measles and German Measles were fortunately limited in extent. During the past year the Council entered into an agreement with the West Sussex Benefit Nursing Association whereby all cases of Measles and German Measles will be visited by the Association's nurses. By this arrangement it is hoped to influence mothers to take proper care of their children when suffering from Measles, and so prevent the numerous deaths from this disease that have arisen in the past as a result of mothers regarding measles as a disease of little danger.

### GENERAL SANITARY INSPECTION.

The Sanitary Inspector (Mr. J. Oakes) went on military service early in May, 1916, and his duties have since been carried out by Mr. G. T. Suter.

### HOUSING INSPECTION REGULATIONS, 1910.

In consequence of the absence of the Sanitary Inspector, and the conditions brought about by the war, no routine work under these regulations has been undertaken, only such houses being dealt with as come under notice through the occurrence of infectious disease, or as a result of a complaint.

The following is a summary of the Sanitary Inspector's work during the year:—

Total number of inspections .....	970
Nuisances and other matters reported to the Council ...	37
Complaints received and dealt with .....	6
Houses disinfected .....	22
New houses built .....	0
Houses demolished .....	0

## WATER SUPPLY.

The consumption of water in Petworth town during the year amounted to 16,392,755 gallons.

## HOUSING.

The Council carefully considered in September the probable requirements of the district as to the number of new houses that would be required after the war, and supplied to the Local Government Board the following estimate:—

Bignor .....	3
Bury .....	6
Duncton .....	4
Fittleworth .....	12
Petworth .....	12
Sutton .....	6

## FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT.

Thirty visits of inspection were paid to Factories and Workshops.

No defects were found.

No lists of outworkers have been received.

The number of workshops on the register is 24.

**Thakeham Rural District.**

—

**1917.**

## VITAL STATISTICS, 1917, SUMMARY.

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				Thakeham R.D.	Rural Districts in West Sussex.	England & Wales.		
Death Rate	...	...	...	13·8	...	13·8	...	14·4
Birth Rate	...	...	...	13·7	...	13·0	...	17·8
Infantile Mortality Rate	...	...	...	57	...	52	...	97
Phthisis Death Rate	...	...	...	1·0	...	1·1	...	—
Zymotic (Infectious Diseases)								
Death Rate	...	...	...	0·3	...	0·28	...	—
Population, Census 1911	...	...	...	8,334	...	—	...	—
Estimated population to middle of 1917,								
Total Population	...	...	...	7,561	...	—	...	—
Civilian	...	...	...	6,783	...	—	...	—



# Thakeham Rural District.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

### POPULATION.

At Census, 1911 .....	8,334
Registrar-General's estimated populations to middle of year 1917 .....	Total ..... 7,561 Civilian only 6,783

The natural increase of the population, i.e., excess of births over civilian deaths was 10 (104—94).

### BIRTHS.

104 births belonging to the district have been registered during the year, 58 males, 46 females; 6 were illegitimate. For the purpose of calculating the birth rate the Registrar-General directs that the estimated total population (not civilian only) should be used, viz.: 7,561. Thus calculated the birth rate for the past year was 13.7 per 1,000, as compared with 18.7 the average rate for the district during the preceding five years, with 13.0 the rate in 1917 for Rural Districts in West Sussex, and with 17.8 the rate for England and Wales in 1917.

### DEATHS.

94 deaths belonging to the district have been registered during the year, 47 males, 47 females, equal to a death rate of 13.8 per 1,000, as compared with 11.1 the average rate for the district during the preceding five years, with 13.8 the rate for Rural Districts in West Sussex in 1917, and with 14.4 the rate for England and Wales in 1917.

The principal causes of death were:—

	1917	1916	1915
Pulmonary Tuberculosis .....	6	3	6
Other Tuberculous Diseases (including Meningitis) .....	1	1	3
Cancer .....	8	7	11
Heart Disease .....	15	10	13
Bronchitis .....	5	7	14
Pneumonia .....	5	1	5
Other Respiratory Diseases .....	3	4	0

	1917	1916	1915
Violence, apart from suicide .. .. .	4	1	4
Measles .. .. .	0	0	1
Whooping Cough .. .. .	2	0	1
Diphtheria .. .. .	0	0	1
Diarrhœa .. .. .	0	1	0

### INFANTILE MORTALITY.

Under the Notification of Births Act 95 births were notified to me. 73 by Doctors, 14 by Midwives, and 8 by Parents. Failure to notify under the Act came to my knowledge in 8 cases.

The County Council Health Visitors have visited the homes of all the babies notified.

During the year 6 children have died under one year of age, as compared with 4 in 1916, and 6 in 1915. The infantile mortality rate per 1,000 births was 57, as compared with 62 the average rate in the district during the preceding five years, with 52 the rate in 1917 for the Rural Districts of West Sussex, and with 97 the rate for England and Wales in 1917.

The 6 deaths under one year were due to the following causes:—Two (twins) from premature birth, aged 4 days; one from bronchitis, aged 5 months; one from bronchopneumonia, aged 8 months; one from whooping cough, aged 22 days; one from enlarged thymus gland, aged 5 weeks.

### PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

As will be seen from the following table the district has been particularly free from infectious disease during the past year.

	1917	Incidence per 1,000	1916	1915
Diphtheria .. .. .	1	0.1	2	7
Scarlet Fever .. .. .	1	0.1	11	3
Erysipelas .. .. .	0	0.0	0	0
Enteric Fever .. .. .	0	0.0	1	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .. .. .	0	0.0	0	0
Pulmonary Tuberculosis .. .. .	7	1.0	7	6
	9		21	16
Measles .. .. .	26	3.8	8*	
German Measles .. .. .	5	0.7	2*	
	40		31	

\*Only notifiable since 1st January, 1916.

The 13 cases of Measles and German Measles were visited by the nurse under the Council's arrangement with the West Sussex Benefit Nursing Association. No deaths occurred.

No case of infectious disease was removed to hospital during the year.

### GENERAL SANITARY INSPECTION.

During the continued absence on military service of Mr. L. Burrows, the Sanitary Inspector, his duties have been carried out by Mr. W. Forrester, the Surveyor.

The Acting Inspector made 1,087 sanitary inspections during the year, having regularly inspected the 55 cowsheds, 6 slaughter-houses, and 15 bakehouses.

In regard to the cowsheds he reports:

- (1) that owing to the shortage of labour they are not being maintained in as clean a state as is necessary, nor as they were before the war;
- (2) that it is useless to call for structural improvements required at some cowsheds, as the shortage of labour, etc., renders it impracticable to have them carried out.

### WATER SUPPLY.

Storrington is the only village with a public water supply. About 187 houses are now supplied by it, 37 having been connected during the year.

### PUBLIC SCAVENGING.

Storrington is the only parish in the district in which public scavenging is undertaken.

### HOUSING.

8 new houses were built during the year, 5 at Storrington, 2 at Thakeham, and 1 at Findon. Nine cases of overcrowding were reported, seven of which were abated.

The question of the sufficiency of houses in the district was carefully gone into by the Council in the Autumn, when the Local Government Board asked for a return to be made as to the estimated number of new houses required (a) immediately, (b) after the War.

The Council in their return to the Local Government Board stated that as far as could be estimated 132 houses would be required after the war in the following parishes:—



Amberley .....	12	Pulborough .....	28
Ashington .....	6	Rackham .....	6
Coldwaltham .....	6	Storrington .....	20
Findon .....	20	Thakeham .....	3
Greatham .....	2	Washington .....	12
Hardham .....	0	West Chiltington .....	10
North Stoke .....	0	Wiggonholt .....	3
Parham .....	4		

### BUILDING BYE-LAWS.

There are no Building Bye-laws in force in the district.

### FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT.

112 visits of inspection were paid to Workshops. No defects were found.

No lists of outworkers have been received.

The number of workshops on the register is 38.